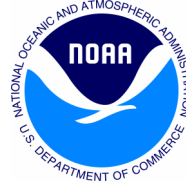


National Weather Service

Severe Weather

1- 800- 452-9074

weather.gov/omaha



Omaha/Valley NWS
6707 North 288th Street
Omaha, NE 68064-9443

402 359-5166

What to Report...use the T-E-L approach

Report the Time (T), Event (E), and Location (L).

Tornadoes, Funnel Clouds and Rotating Wall Clouds



Two tornadoes pictured looking south from Yankton, SD
May 5th, 2007

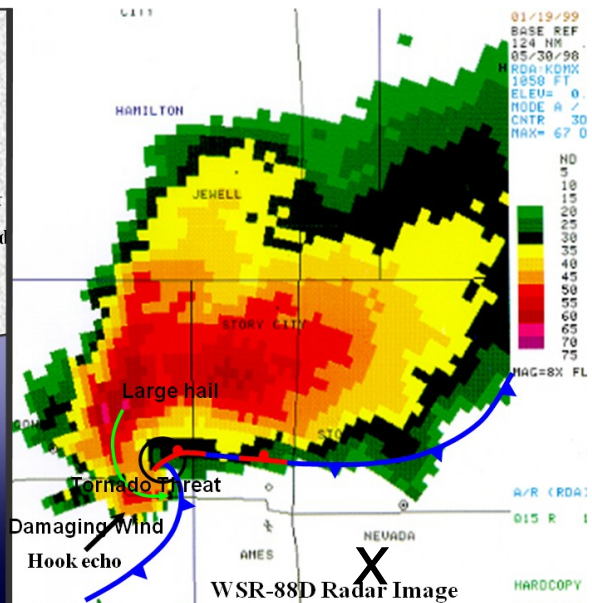
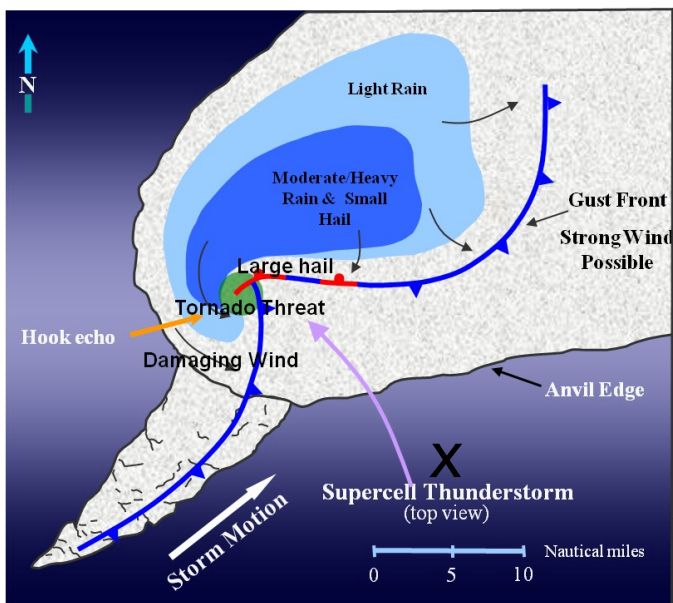


FUNNEL CLOUD - A rapidly rotating column of air (typically funnel-shaped) extending downward from the thunderstorm base, but *not* in contact with the ground.



ROTATING WALL CLOUD - A persistent, often abrupt lowering at the cloud rain-free base.

TORNADO - A violently rotating column of air in contact with the ground.



How to Spot Tornadoes Safely

- Determine the storm's movement. View from the right flank of the storm (the "X"). Have an escape route.

Hail

Report referencing a coin, sports ball, or citrus



1 1/4"



1 3/4"



2 1/2"



2 3/4" (baseball)



4" (grapefruit)

What Verifies a Severe Thunderstorm Warning??



Winds
58 mph or
Greater

Hail
3/4" or
Larger



eSpotter - What is it?

Report severe weather online— to register and find out more go to:
<http://espotter.weather.gov>

Severe Weather Reporting

1- 800- 452-9074

Report the: Time (T), Event (E), and Location (L).

Estimating Winds...

Wind Speed		Effects on Land
Under 1		Calm; smoke rises vertically.
1-3		Smoke drift indicates wind direction; vanes do not move.
4-7		Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; vanes begin to move.
8-12		Leaves, small twigs in constant motion; light flags extended.
13-18		Dust, leaves, and loose paper raised up; small branches move.
19-24		Small trees begin to sway.
25-31		Large branches of trees in motion; whistling heard in wires
32-38		Whole trees in motion; resistance felt in walking against the wind.
39-46		Twigs and small branches broken off trees.
47-54		Slight structural damage occurs; slate roofs blown off.
55-63		Seldom experienced on land; trees broken, structural damage occurs.
64-72		Very rarely experienced on land; usually with widespread damage.
72 or higher		Violence and destruction.